



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 19.21 Thursday, May 23, 2013

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## Sumpter Fest on this week end, 'Honoring Hometown Heroes'

It's Memorial Day week end and so it's time for the annual Sumpter Country Fest, Thursday through Monday.

This year's theme is "Honoring Our Hometown Heroes" and there will be six Grand Marshals in Saturday's parade, which starts at noon.

Grand Marshals are the police and fire chiefs of the Tri-Community: Sumpter and Van Buren townships and the City of Belleville.

The Honored Citizen is Leslie Powell, who retired last year as Sumpter Fire Chief.

This year's Country Fest chairman is Kim Toms, who said they will be recognizing "the courage of our police and fire departments and EMS."

"Our main goal is to bring affordable family fun to the community. The festival is put on by the hardworking volunteers from the Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission with support from township's departments and members of the community," Toms said.

Proceeds from the festival help fund other events in the community.

### Grand Marshals

• **Sumpter Township Chief of Police is James Pierce, Jr.** He was born in Detroit in 1950 and has lived in Van Buren Township for the last 12 years.

For the past 43 years he has been married to Dr. Regina Reed Pierce, who has a doctorate in Nursing. He has two sons and one is a law enforcement officer in Detroit. He has seven grandchildren and all his family resides in Michigan.

He attended High School in Detroit and Los Angeles, CA. He has a Criminal Justice degree.

Chief Pierce was employed by Michigan Bell Telephone Company 1968-70 and then entered the U.S. Navy and received an Honorable Discharge in 1971. He then

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Independent photos by Rosemary K. Otzman

Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley brought her family out to help place American flags on veterans' graves last Saturday at Hillside Cemetery. Mayor Conley holds son Carson, while husband Jeff and son Austin pause from their work and smile for the camera. Many volunteers came out early Saturday morning to help get the veterans' graves ready for this weekend's Memorial Day.



Tom Fielder painted the faded letters on the front of Belleville City Hall on Saturday as one of the Downtown Development Authority volunteers working to spruce up the city. After much conversation with officials on what color should be used, Fielder ended up with Spruce Green paint. Fielder is a retired Belleville High School teacher and former mayor of the City of Belleville. He is president of both the Strawberry Festival and Belleville Area Historical Society.

## Thomas Johnson takes 10-year plea on federal firearm charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

On May 13, Thomas Michael Johnson of Van Buren Township pled guilty to federal firearms charges in the U.S. District Court in Detroit.

In a plea agreement Johnson, 52, will do ten years in prison and avoid a career-criminal sentence of 30 years, said VBT Police Sgt. Charles Bazy.

Sheldon Brummette, the heroin dealer who bought the stolen firearm from Johnson, also took a ten-year plea.

The Javon Ellis trial will begin on May 28 at the U.S. District Court in Detroit. Ellis is looking at a minimum of 30 years to life if convicted as a career criminal, Sgt. Bazy reported.

Police say Ellis is the person who bought the stolen firearm from Brummette and was arrested by the Eastern Michigan University Police Department following a traffic stop, when the firearm and marijuana was found in his possession.

The firearm in question was stolen in a home invasion on Old Michigan Avenue in Van Buren Township.

Johnson was arrested April 4, 2012 and prosecuted by VBT police for his part in the break-ins in the Denton/Michigan Avenue neighborhoods. On June 7 Johnson was sentenced to one-year probation for possession of stolen property by 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green. Johnson had five convictions between 1979 and 1985 for breaking and entering, home invasion, and intent to commit larceny.

On June 14, Johnson was a no-show for a pretrial exam on yet another case against him in 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge David Parrott's courtroom.

It turned that Johnson was in jail on a federal charge of a felon knowingly and unlawfully in possession of a firearm, in this case a Colt .45 pistol with a laser sight which had previously traveled in interstate and foreign commerce.

At the time of his arrest he was in the company of two other felons: Brummette and Ellis, both of whom were listed as defendants in the federal case.

(continued on page 18)



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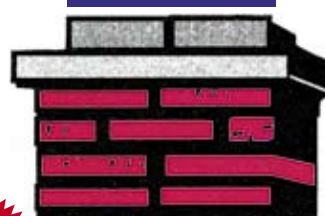
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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## Sumpter Fest

(continued from page 1)

continued being employed by Michigan Bell Telephone Company until 1973. From 1973 until 1993 he was a police officer for the Detroit Police Department. From 1993 until 2003 he was a Police Sergeant-Retired, Detroit Police Dept. From 2003-04, he was employed as a Wayne County Deputy Sheriff. 2004-07 he was Commander of Police in Sumpter Township and became Chief of Police in 2007.



• **Van Buren Township Interim Public Safety Director is Gregory M. Laurain**, who is starting his 31<sup>st</sup> year with VBT Police. He began his career as a Reserve Police Officer in 1981 with VBT and graduated from the Oakland Police Academy in 1982.



He was hired as one of VBT's part-time police officers and became one of the township's first full-time officers hired in 1983.

Laurain served in many capacities during his years with VBT, including bureaus, units within the department and assigned to a Special Task Force with the Michigan State Police (Western Wayne Narcotics) and later with the Drug Enforcement Agency (Airport Interdiction).

Laurain worked his way up from patrolman to Sergeant where he supervised Patrol personnel and later was assigned to the Detective Bureau. In 2006 he was promoted to Captain of Support Services and served there until last April when he took on the assignment as Captain over all Police Operations. Since January of this year, Laurain has been serving as the township's Interim Public Safety Director overseeing Police, Fire, Emergency Dispatch and Animal Control Operations.

"We are facing some changing times in how we deliver Public Safety to our community, but I look at it as challenging and very exciting," Laurain said. "I can tell you that I enjoy coming to work each day and serving alongside the other dedicated Public Safety personnel of this organization."

Laurain said he was disappointed that he would not be able to be in the parade, since he would be in Florida.

• **Belleville Chief of Police is Gene Taylor.**

Chief Taylor has been in police work for 37 years and the last eight years as the Chief of



Police for the City of Belleville.

He is married to a Sumpter Township girl, Elayne Whitehead, and they have two daughters, Lynette and Laura.

• **Sumpter Township Fire Chief is Joseph Januszyk** who has lived his entire life in Sumpter Township. He graduated from Belleville High school in 1976. He attended Washtenaw Community College and has been employed by Van Buren Public Schools for the last 28 years.



Joe has been an on-call firefighter for Sumpter Township Fire Department for 35 years. He recently was appointed the new Fire Chief'.

"I am proud to say I am from Sumpter Township and am dedicated to my community," he said.

• **Van Buren Township Fire Chief is Daniel Besson.** He is married to Jennifer who is a Registered Nurse at St. John Medical Center in Detroit Emergency & Trauma Center. They have two daughters, Abigail, 10, and Emma, 8.



In 1999, Besson earned a bachelor degree in Public Safety Administration from Eastern Michigan University. In 2007 he graduated from EMU's School of Fire Staff and Command and is now in the process of earning a master's degree in Emergency Management (with Epsilon Pi Tau honors).

Besson was promoted to full-time VBT Fire Chief in August 2012 after serving as the interim chief since June. He has 18 years with the VBT Fire Department with a promotion to Lieutenant in 2003 followed by a promotion to Battalion Chief in 2009.

Besson spent nearly ten years of full-time service (2003-2012) with the City of Flat Rock Fire Department with a promotion to Shift Commander in 2008 and Lieutenant in 2011. He served as the Coordinator of Emergency Medical Services and as the Training Officer.

Besson has a total of 20 years of paid-on-call/part-time and ten years of full-time fire experience.

He was with the Belleville Fire Department for two years of paid-on-call service from 1992-1994. He also had 15 years of volunteer service (1996-2011) as a Police Reserve for the VBT Police Department.

Besson has also previous 911 Operator/Public Safety Dispatcher (1996-2003) for the VBT Public Safety Department. He also was Lead Paramedic in 2012 for the Detroit Grand Prix (Pit Row Team).

Besson was elected to the Belleville City Council and served one term.

He is a licensed Paramedic and a certified Fire & EMS Instructor along with being a state-certified Fire Inspector and nationally certified Fire Plans & Examiner.

• **The City of Belleville's Fire Chief is Dr. Brian Loranger.** Dr. Loranger graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, in December of 1985, where he also met and married his wife Dr. Anna Wallis. They moved to Belleville in 1986 and opened their own practice, Loranger Family Chiropractic Center P.C. In 2011 the Lorangers opened a second practice in Dexter.



The couple has three children Aaron, Corinne, and Faith. Aaron lives with his wife in Appleton, WI. Corinne is currently attending LIFE Chiropractic University in Marietta, GA. Faith is looking forward to her senior year at Divine Child.

In 1989 the Fire Chief in Belleville was Jack Loria. He asked Dr. Loranger to join the Fire Department. Dr. Loranger worked his way up in rank at the Fire Department and in 2012 became the Fire Chief for the City of Belleville.

Throughout his time in Belleville he has been an active member in the community. He has been involved with the Boy Scout Troop 793, the Belleville Kiwanis Club, the Strawberry Festival Committee, and the Downtown Development Authority. He also was elected to the City Council. Dr. Loranger is an active member of the BYC, working to promote the Belleville Lake community.

### Honored Citizen

**Leslie F. Powell retired as Sumpter Township Fire Chief last September after 41 years of service.**

He was born June 3, 1948 in Pottsville, PA, which is coal country. He moved to Grand Rapids in 1960 and came to the Belleville area in 1962. He graduated from Belleville High School in 1966.

Powell married Beverly Januszyk July 26, 1969. They have a daughter Jennifer (Chris) Scott and two granddaughters, Leslie and Brittany Scott.

Powell worked as a heavy equipment operator until he retired from Operating Engineers Local 324 in 2004. In 1968 he enlisted in the United States Army where he served as a Parachute Rigger until 1971. He first became involved with the Sumpter fire department in 1965.

In 1971, he officially joined the Sumpter Township Volunteer Department and was elected Fire Chief in 1986. He served in that position until Sept. 12, 2012.



## Belleville District Library Board hires marketing consultant

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library Board voted unanimously at its May 14 meeting to hire Sue Kennedy of K2 Communications Plus as an advisor for its marketing committee and to write a mission statement.

Kennedy will help the board prioritize decisions on a new library facility.

Board members Christina Brasil and Joseph Monte were absent from the meeting.

Kennedy's cost is \$6,000, with about \$5,000 for research and packaging of the results and \$1,000 for "a facilitated workshop and full developed mission statement and core values."

Kennedy said the agreement assumes that the Belleville Area District Library Board will recruit/solicit participants for research activities and provide a facility for the workshop.

Board Chairman Mary Jane Dawson asked if it would take about six to seven weeks and Kennedy said that was so, but she would need participation by the board and parts of the library staff.

Kennedy, who has worked for the prize-winning Canton Public Library for six years, said her work would give the library board "solid groundwork to make decisions."

Kennedy said they need to set the kickoff meeting and Deputy Library Director Mary Jo Suchy said she would prefer to have that after June's budget meeting. Kennedy said she is flexible.

Library Director Deb Green said she wanted an initial meeting before the next month's meeting and said the marketing committee could meet during Memorial Day week.

An initial meeting with Kennedy was held with board members Mike Boelter, Elaine Guterrez, John Juriga, and Green and Suchy, where they heard her presentation.

The proposal approved covers the first two phases of the initially outlined project: Phase 1: Initial Assessment and Phase 2: BADL Foundation Setting Workshop.

She said this proposal should serve as a starting point for discussion with the BADL marketing committee and the board.

"As previously discussed, projects of this nature are scalable based on the desired scope and funding available," Kennedy wrote in a memo to the board.

Kennedy said the research will be packaged so that the board can continue to utilize it for developing a strategic plan and prioritizing new facility decisions.



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Landfill-gas-to-energy project moving ahead?

It's been many months since the Hoosier landfill-gas-to-electricity project on the Visteon property has been on any Van Buren Township agenda for action. There were those who hoped it had died and gone away.

It didn't. It's alive and well and seeking the vacating of the head of the Post-Robson drain, where the project will be built.

To get that part of the drain vacated, Wayne County needs a petition from the VBT Board of Trustees. Spicer Group, which works for the county (as well as the City of Belleville DDA) reportedly says this portion of Post-Robson is not required as a part of the Wayne County Drain system. VBT's engineer from Wade Trim agrees.

So, the VBT Board of Trustees discussed the drain at Monday's work/study session. John Delaney, who for years has vigorously opposed the Hoosier project, spoke at length on the subject. Delaney said there is documented proof the applicant lied to the township, and the planning commission was misled so the commission misled the township board. He raised the question of drainage. Retired engineer Ernie Tozer spoke in detail on the drainage and offered to bring documents to the supervisor. She accepted his offer. Clerk Wright wanted to go out with the engineer and others to see the site. The item will be back for discussion and action in two weeks.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

I got a call from Glenn Silvenis reminding me that Darrell Ibach DID get a Belleville High School diploma about eight years ago and he was very pleased to get it.

Thanks for reminding me. I do remember that the school district had a special program for those who went to war or didn't get a diploma for other reasons and I took Darrell's picture after he got his diploma from the school board.

Yes, you are right. He was very pleased. Sorry I forgot that part of the story.

\*\*\*

At last week's Belleville DDA meeting, City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said that a former city councilman came to city hall to report that he saw people with big pans of bread feeding the geese at Horizon Park. The council members agreed that if people keep feeding the geese, they will never get rid of them.

It's not the geese so much that offend people, but the droppings they leave all over the park.

Kollmeyer said that Turf Pro has offered to fertilize Horizon Park without charge and will also, at Turf Pro's expense, put something on the lawn to keep the geese away. She didn't know if they would be using grape extract, like the city tried last year without success. She thinks they have put on the first treatment.

Last Saturday, when the Coast Guard Auxiliary was at Horizon Park getting ready for its life vest picture, I saw two white ducks on the lawn, but no geese nearby. Maybe whatever Turf Pro put on the lawn keeps the geese away, but attracts white ducks.

\*\*\*

One of our readers, who lives on Thornhill



Ct. in Belleville, brought me the latest scam letter, which included a check for \$3,455 to help him pay a processing fee of \$3,100 to get a prize of \$250,000.

He said he knows there are people in dire straits who would cash the check. He knows the trouble caused by cashing that check would be very costly and he's not going to do it.

What kind of prize needs you to pay a processing fee? Can't the winner just tell them to take the fee out of the prize total and send me the rest?

We thank our reader for bringing in evidence of this latest scam from "Sure Financial Incorporated" so he can ward off others from being tempted by some easy money -- that would bring hard times when that check bounced after you sent most of it to the scammer. That's happened before in this town.

\*\*\*

A man left his name and a message on our answering machine last week. He said he was really angry about Davenport's building a new strip mall on the former Amerman Lumber Yard property in the City of Belleville, as reported in last week's *Independent*.

He said he was so upset because there are a lot of strip malls in and around this community that are almost empty.

\*\*\*

Although the Moose Lodge announced it would be renting two storefront units

next to Cork & Bottle for its temporary headquarters, the Moose changed its mind and rented just one, instead. They don't need much space now, since most of the tables, chairs and other items were sold with the building to the BYC. And, apparently, membership is down.

\*\*\*

Mary Jane Dawson, chairwoman of the Belleville Area District Library Board, shared some exciting news at the end of the last board meeting. She said her son Jim, who has her "gene pool," was just sworn in as Deputy Chief at the Ann Arbor Police Department.

I looked on the Ann Arbor PD website and there he was: Jim Baird, Deputy Chief of Operations.


What mother wouldn't be proud?

\*\*\*

At Monday's workshop session of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Supervisor Linda Combs announced that she had raised \$19,000 in donations that would pay for Fourth of July fireworks at Beck Ball Diamonds. She said she made a campaign promise to bring back the fireworks and, since money wasn't in the budget for the fireworks, she went out and got corporate sponsorships to cover it all.

When I asked if it was enough to cover all the overtime for police officers to direct traffic, etc., she said it was.





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## Letters

### FMAR needs volunteers to help the animals

To the Editor:

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue would like to report that our Cinco de Mayo Dinner/Dance made over \$11,000. Thank you, community members, for your support! This event ran very smoothly. We think after six tries we have worked out the kinks.

Be sure to look for the FMAR booth at the Sumpter Fest coming up over Memorial Day weekend. The booth is located near

the northwest entrance.

The ninth-annual FMAR Volunteer Clean Up Day will be held at the shelter, 21599 Arkona Rd. off Rawsonville, on June 1 from 9 a.m. until work is done.

If you care to volunteer, wear work attire, work gloves, and bring yard tools. This year we will concentrate on moving a shed, property clean up, cleaning the Dog Retreat attic, and general cleaning. Breakfast treats will be provided by Tim Horton's. Lunch provided by FMAR.

The annual FMAR Golf Outing Fundraiser will be held this year on July 13 at Thorne Hills Golf Course, 12915 Sumpter Rd., Carleton, MI 48117, 734-587-2332. All proceeds will go directly to FMAR.

We are proud to announce FMAR earned a Petco Foundation grant to pay our golf course expenses. Thank you, Petco! 1 o'clock will be a shotgun start as long as 20 teams are signed up. Four-person teams at \$200/team, best ball scramble, 734-461-9458 with questions.

Golf Flyer announcement, registration forms, and sponsorship forms are available on our website: [www.fmar1.org](http://www.fmar1.org). To sponsor a hole for \$100, please call Linda Luke at 734-740-1571 or 734-697-9275.

FMAR has a big request. At present we are in desperate need of more volunteers, particularly with dogs and in the Dog Retreat. Early morning or afternoon shifts are available along with dog walking. Call Volunteer Coordinator Sandy Seaton at 734-417-5117, if interested or if you have questions.

FMAR feels blessed to be located in such a generous community. By your financial contributions and donations of time and love, the mission of FMAR continues to move forward. Thank you for helping us make a difference in the never-ending homeless pet population.

Linda Luke-Neinas

FMAR Fundraiser/Events Coordinator

## Help Owen Intermediate students 'pay it forward'

To the Editor:

"Together we can change the world, one good deed at a time."

Fifth and 6th grade students have been learning about Paying It Forward as a part of Owen Intermediate School's PBIS program. They've been showing kindness toward others just because it is the right thing to do, not necessarily expecting anything in return.

National Pay It Forward Day was on April 25 of this year, but students are going beyond just one day to help others in need and show acts of kindness.

Students are selling "Pay It Forward" bracelets for \$2 as a way to raise money for two different charities: Amazing Wings Therapeutic Riding Center and Mott Children's Hospital. All money raised (and any donations) will be given to these organizations.

If you are interested in donating, please contact Ms. Kratz at [kkratz@vanburenschools.net](mailto:kkratz@vanburenschools.net) or call Owen Intermediate at 734-697-8711.

For more information on how you can "Pay It Forward" please check out [www.payitforwardfoundation.org](http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org)

Owen Intermediate School  
Belleville

## Post Office food drive was a great success

To the Editor:

WOW - the post office food drive was a great success. Mail carriers collected 14,201 pounds of food, 2001 pounds more than last year.

Keith Johnston donated both the truck and the manpower to deliver the food to the First United Methodist Church and St. Anthony's Parish.


Lynne Taylor of the post office did a fantastic job coordinating the effort right down to the great luncheon. Volunteers were plentiful and we even had some fun along the way.

Thanks to each and every one of you for supporting this event.

Laurie Aren, Director  
Family & Community Ministries  
The Salvation Army Plymouth Corps

*"A discussion is an exchange of knowledge;  
an argument is an exchange of ignorance"*

*--Robert Quillen*



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## More Letters

### Sumpter Little League sets June 1 meet & greet

To the Editor:

Thank you for showing interest in our new Chartered Little League "T-Ball Program." There will be a meet and greet on Saturday, June 1, at noon at the Graham Park ball diamond.

All registered children and parents / guardians must be present in order to be eligible to participate in this year's T-Ball league. You can also register at the Sumpter Township Supervisor's office, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

If you know of any other children ages 4-7 who are residents of Sumpter Township, this will be the last time they will be able to register. Hot dogs, Kool-Aid, and chips will be provided at the meet and greet. Children will also be introduced to the exciting world of T-Ball.

All volunteers must be present at the meet and greet. A Little League official will be present to answer any and all questions you may have.

I look forward to seeing you on June 1.  
Craig Moody 734-461-6201, ext. 2226



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# Obituaries



Ann Martin

## ANNAMAE (ANN) KUCHTA MARTIN

(April 23, 1939 – May 15, 2013)

Annamae (Ann) Kuchta Martin, age 74, of Rohnert Park, CA, died May 15, 2013 at her daughter's home in Rohnert Park after a six-week battle with cancer.

She was born April 23, 1939 in Belleville to Stephen J. Kuchta, Sr., and Marian (Silvenis) Kuchta. She graduated from Belleville High School in the class of 1956. Ann earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Wayne State University and taught elementary and pre-school classes in Michigan and California.

Ann also was a trainer at the Monroe Institute in Virginia, where she taught people from around the world on how to use music to expand their minds.

She loved to travel and took trips to Egypt, Brazil, and other far-flung places in her early years. In her later years she loved to take well-planned trips with her granddaughters to explore the world. Ann loved to read, she loved growing flowers and vegetables, and was thrilled with the antics of the hummingbirds at the feeders she put out. She was very fond of her son's dog Kona, who visited with her often.

She is survived by her children: Laura (Kirk) Taylor of Rohnert Park, CA; George Martin (Brent Jackson) of Rohnert Park; and Clay (Carmen) Martin of St. Augustine, FL; her grandchildren Danae Gillard, Kayle Gillard, Avery Taylor, Raquel Martin, and Monica Martin; her brother Anthony S. (Mary Lee) Kuchta of Fort Pierce, FL; her sister Rosemary K. Otzman and nephews William and James Otzman, all of Belleville; and many other nieces, nephews, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother and his wife, Stephen J. Kuchta, Jr. and Eileen Law Kuchta; a niece Laurie Kuchta and a nephew Gerald F. Otzman, Jr.

Cremation rites were accorded. Memorial donations may be written out to "Golden Gate Council" and sent to: Hosting International-USA, Golden Gate Council, 425 Divisadero Street, Suite 307, San Francisco, CA 94117.

## JEREMIAH MEADOWS, SR.

(December 15, 1942 - May 18, 2013)

Funeral Service is Saturday, May 25, at 11 a.m. at the ISOM Memorial CME Church, Sumpter Road, with visitation from 10-11 a.m. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

## More Letters

### How can the \$54,000 be called a SAVINGS?

To the Editor:

I am wondering how the Van Buren school district can claim a \$54,000 SAVINGS on money it wasn't spending in the first place?

This does not constitute a SAVINGS! It is not money coming back to the district that was going out.

Administration has never taken a cut in pay as they are asking all the other employees to do. Requiring the administrators to work six additional days without pay is hardly a sacrifice when last year the teachers were forced to work 14 days without pay as well as an increase in insurance.

The support staff union gave up bereavement days, three holidays, snow days, and their insurance payments increased, as well.

Why doesn't the administration have to share equally in the sacrifice of all the other employee groups? They keep their pay while those actually working in the classroom are forced to take cuts every year. How is that fair? Can someone explain it?

Van Buren Public Schools employee Name withheld by request

## Chris Gering fund raiser set at Lodge Lanes

To the Editor:

Chris Gering, 37, of Sumpter Township, lost his life in a tragic motorcycle accident on April 28, 2013. In an effort to help out his two sons, Kyle Gering, 18, and Collin Gering, 16, his friends and family have rallied together to organize a bowling fund raiser.

The event will be held at Lodge Lanes in Belleville on June 1 at 7 p.m. any and all participants are welcome and the first 240 people will be able to bowl. All others are welcome to spectate and gather in his honor.

Bowling and pizza will be included along with raffle items and 50/50, with all proceeds benefitting his sons.

Chris knew many, many people. Please reserve your place ASAP.

Jeremy Watson, 734-260-4431, [jwatson81477@aol.com](mailto:jwatson81477@aol.com)

Jason Judy, 734-732-6578, [jjudy357@gmail.com](mailto:jjudy357@gmail.com)

Heather Gering, 734-732-9993

P.S. Please try to register in advance. Three games of bowling is \$20. There also will be t-shirts for sale in his honor for \$20. Please try to contact someone in advance with the number of shirts you will need and your sizes to help with ordering.

## Freedom isn't free

To the Editor:

When a soldier is killed in the line of duty, his family eventually gets a flag and a note conveying sympathy and respect from the United States Government.

When a pro basketball player announces he is gay, he immediately gets a personal phone call from the President congratulating him for his courage.

Am I missing something?

Too bad the President can't call the families of ALL Military personnel who lost their lives protecting OUR freedom. Freedom ISN'T FREE.

Pete Pitzen, Belleville

## Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, May 23 – Van Buren Township Cultural Advisory Committee, 11 a.m.

• Tuesday, May 28 -- Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Water & Sewer Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, June 3 -- Van Buren Township work-study, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Employee Retirement Recognition, 7 p.m., BHS Auditorium. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, June 4 -- Van Buren Township board meeting, 7:00 p.m.

• Wednesday, June 5 – Van Buren Township Staff Review, 1-4 p.m.

• Monday, June 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

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Photo courtesy Belle Tire

Belle Tire has opened the doors of its newest discount tire store at 10605 Belleville Road in Van Buren Township. This 85<sup>th</sup> Belle Tire store is being led by manager Kevin Roe, who began his career with Belle Tire more than 19 years ago as a tire technician. With Roe as assistant managers Sean Wilson and Jeremy Stapleton, along with a crew of tire technicians, sales associates, automotive technicians, and auto glass technicians. Belle Tire's staff of ASE-certified auto repair professionals are ready to help customers with tires, custom wheels, alignments, brakes, batteries, oil changes, shocks and struts, windshield repair and replacement and more. The new store has sales pods instead of a large counter, a business bar where parents can snack and surf the web on the free Wi-Fi while they wait, and a new merchandising display.



Photo courtesy of Bill Meahan, Coast Guard Auxiliary

On Saturday, the Coast Guard Auxiliary showed up at Horizon Park to try to get a picture of a crowd of people wearing life vests for the Ready, Set, Wear It kickoff to Safe Boating Week. Last year, there were 68 people in life vests. This year five were present in addition to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. They took a picture anyway and then decided to go over to the wedding at the gazebo, where people there agreed to wear vests for another picture. There were five people in the wedding picture with the last name of Frost: Corey, Connie, Jaiden, Jeanette, and Courtney. This is probably the first wedding party to participate in the Coast Guard event – worldwide. By the time they were done they had 38 people in pictures wearing life vests in Belleville.

## Big Ole' Yard Sale

**Spaces available at our Huge Yard Sale!**  
**Bring your tables, pallets, and canopies.**  
**May 24, 25, & 26th**

**On Bemis Road, near the corner of Savage/Haggerty Rd.**  
**Cost is \$25 per day, per 12 X 12 space.**

**First come first served. Limited number of spaces.**

**Flyers are available at the Bake Shoppe, 17416 Savage Road, also available at the box at the corner of Bemis and Savage Roads.**

**This is a great opportunity for our community.**  
**Don't want it at your place? Have it at ours!**

## Glenn Vicary earns Master's degree in Pharmacology, Toxicology

Glenn Vicary received his Master's degree in Pharmacology and Toxicology from the School of Medicine at the University of Louisville on May 12.

Vicary was accepted into the program in 2010. His research focuses on nicotine-associated lung changes, with hopes of developing better smoking cessation and pulmonary disease treatments.

He has presented his research yearly at the American Thoracic Society and Research Louisville conferences. He will continue his education toward a Ph.D. at Louisville.

Vicary is the grandson of Mildred Baker of Belleville and the son of Thomas and Joan (Baker) Vicary of Oak Ridge Tennessee.



## Five Belleville students on Dean's List for Western Michigan University

Five Belleville students have been named to the Western Michigan University Dean's List for the Spring 2013 semester.

They are: Chelsea Collins, nursing, Health and Human Services; Marida Little, social work, Health and Human Services; Eric Mitchell, pre-business, Haworth College of Business; Karlie Mitchell, pre-social work, Health and Human Services; and Jenna Pinter, pre-nursing, Health and Human Services.

### THE BELLEVILLE INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS CREDIT CARDS!

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	2	5
	3	5
	4	3
Miller Elementary	5	5
	K	5
	1	6
	2	5
	3	3
Renton Junior High	4	5
	5	2
	6	10
	7	4
	8	1
Huron High School	9	10
	10	5
	11	5
	12	10

Applications are available at the Huron School District Administration Building

Application Deadline May 24, 2013

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## Ask Angela

By Angela Nettro

I am here to answer questions pertaining to buying or selling real estate. Send your questions to "Ask Angela", c/o *Belleville-Area Independent*, 152 Main Street, Ste. 9, Belleville 48111 or send me an email at [nettroandco@comcast.net](mailto:nettroandco@comcast.net). I'll answer questions in this column.

**Question from Rick in Van Buren Township:** A few months ago I bought a home without selling my home. I heard there is a way I can keep a principal residence exemption on my new home as

well as my prior home. Is this true?

**Answer:** Yes! It is Public Act 96 passed in 2008. Your second home you just purchased must be in Michigan. Your prior home must not be occupied. Your prior home should be listed for sale with a Realtor, the home cannot be leased or available for lease, and your prior property cannot be used for any business or commercial purpose.

You can retain the additional homestead / principal exemption for up to three years. You must file a form for retention of your principal residence at the assessor's office in the municipality the prior home is. You will have to have a copy of the Realtor's listing to substantiate the home is on the market. For each year the property is not sold you need to renew the exemption.

# Harold's

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The purpose of this Act was to aid struggling sellers who needed to move but were burdened by the loss of their principal residence status for taxes on their prior home.

Hope this helps your current situation.

-- Angela

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## Correction: School Secretaries gave up \$35,200

In a story on Page 3 of the May 16, *Independent* we reported that the Van Buren Association of Educational Secretaries made concessions in vacation pay and a flexible spending account in its two-year contract approved by the school board on May 13.

The total should have been \$32,000 for vacation and \$3,200 for the spending account for a total of \$35,200 in concessions. We apologize for publishing an incorrect figure.

\*\*\*

Also, the picture of the fire fighters on page 3 of the May 9 issue was sent to us by Shauna Spoonamore, but was taken by Robin LaPorte. We regret the confusion.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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Independent photo by Bob Mytych

McDonald's on Belleville Road celebrated its re-grand opening last Friday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony with the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce. Attending were Director of Operations for McDonald's Joseph Kowal, Sr, Operations Manager Gary Winbush, Andrew Batten of Versa/Core (the contractor for the project), Belleville Mayor Kerreen Conley, Van Buren Township Supervisor Linda Combs, and Belleville Chamber members.

## Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



The Belleville Area Little League is now in full swing and celebrated their opening day on May 11. Organizers would like to thank the sponsors for their donations to one of the top Little League organizations in the area.

They include: Absolute Vending, Hidalgo Mexican Restaurant, Belleville Milling, Burhop's Auto Glass, TradeMarc Videos,

CRG Electric, Frosty Boy, Belleville Lake Current, Open Arms Lutheran Church, Becky & Jessica's Place, A & W Restaurant, Contract Welding, Wendy's, Mike Kole, Twisted Rooster, Egan's Pub, and Armstrong's Funland. Play ball!

\*\*\*

The **Fantastic Sams** salon on Rawsonville Road and the Belleville Road location will both take part in a **Cut-A-Thon** to raise awareness and funds to benefit the **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children** on Thursday, May 23. All day long the salons will donate \$1 for every haircut. No appointments are necessary.

\*\*\*

Vendors are needed for the **Big Ole' Yard Sale** taking place May 24-26 on Bemis Road near the corner of Savage/Haggerty Road. A limited number of 12'-by-12' spaces will be available at \$20 each. For information, stop in at the **Bake Shoppe**.

\*\*\*

**Mark Rosenthal's Animal Magic Show** is coming to **Faith Assembly Church** on Huron River Drive in Belleville this Sunday, May 26, at 11 a.m. The show is free and there will be free hotdogs, chips, and prizes. Expect a packed house as Animal Magic is a fantastic show. Call (734) 697-6704.

\*\*\*

**Fish Day** is once again coming to the **Willis Feed Mill & Country Store** in Willis this Saturday, from 2 to 3 pm. To place an order for bluegill, bass, black crappie, Koi, and channel catfish, just to name a few, call 1-800-247-2615.

\*\*\*

The **Sumpter Country Festival** begins

## Mark Rosenthal's ANIMAL MAGIC SHOW

**Sunday, May 26, 11 a.m.**

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# 2013 SUMPTER COUNTRY FESTIVAL Memorial Weekend

## Thursday, May 23

**Carnival**

**Opens @ 5pm - Closes @ 11pm**

## Saturday, May 25

**Carnival & Beer Tent Opens @ 12 Noon - Closes @ 12 Midnight**

**Parade - Noon**

**Starts at Judd & Sumpter Rds.**

**Baby Contest ..... 12-10 pm**

**Bingo ..... 12pm - Close**

**Silent Auction ..... 12-10 pm**

**Impersonators/Tribute Artists ..... 2 pm - 10 pm**

**Emceed by Jimmy James of WPOM/WCXI - 1160 AM**

2:00-2:45 - "Ray Charles"

6:00-6:45 - "Willie Nelson"

3:00-3:45 - "Jerry Lee Lewis"

7:00-7:45 - "Dolly Parton"

4:00-4:45 - "Loretta Lynn"

8:00-8:45 - Sherman Arnold "Elvis"

5:00-5:45 - "Toby Keith"

9:00-9:45 - "The Blues Brothers"

The Sarah Sherrard Band - 10pm - Close

## Friday, May 24

**Carnival & Beer Tent opens @ 5pm - closes @ 12 Midnight**

**D.J. Music - Donnie Phillips ..... 5-7 pm**

**Baby Contest ..... 5-10 pm**

**Bingo ..... 5 pm - Close • Silent Auction ..... 5-10 pm**

**Princess Pageant .... 7pm**

**Live Music "Thrust" .... 8 pm - Close**

## Sunday, May 26

**Carnival & Beer Tent Opens @ 12 Noon - Closes @ 12 Midnight**

**Classic Car Show ..... Noon**

**Fireworks (Rain date - Monday) ..... Dusk**

**D.J. Music - Donnie Phillips ..... 12-4 pm**

**Baby Contest ..... 12-10 pm**

**Bingo ..... 12 pm - Close**

**Silent Auction ..... 12-10 pm**

**Live Music "Laura Wilkie Band" 4-8pm**

**Live Music "Mason Dixon Band" - 8 pm-close**

## Monday, May 27

**Carnival & Beer Tent Opens @ 12 Noon - Closes @ 10pm • ALL AMUSEMENT RIDES ~ \$1.00**

**D.J. Music - Donnie Phillips ..... 12-3 pm**

**Live Music "T.J. Thomas & Kentucky Strait Band" 3 - 6pm**

**Baby Contest ..... 12-1:30 pm • Bingo ..... 12 pm - Close**

**Silent Auction ..... 12-5 pm • Silent Auction Final Bid 5 pm**

**Baby Contest Awards and Raffle Winner Announced ..... 4:30 - 5:15 pm**

**Silent Auction Items Picked Up ..... 6 pm**

**D.J. Music - Donnie Phillips ..... 6 pm - Close**

**Auto Enduro Demo by U.S.A. Demolition Derby ..... 6 pm**



**Sumpter Country Fest  
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## EVERYDAY EVENTS

**Beer Tent**

**Craft Vendors**

**Silent Auction**

**Cutest Baby Contest**

**Free Children's**

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# Ten Rotary Scholarship students feted at annual awards night May 14

On May 14 the Belleville Rotary Club held its 68<sup>th</sup>-Annual Scholarship Award Program. Ten scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each were awarded to Belleville High School graduates.

The club recognized seven recipients of first-time scholarships and three recipients of second-year renewal scholarships.

New scholarship recipients are: Jonas Acuna, Kyle Archer, Daizchane Baker, Asia Dobbins, Destiny Lanay Eadie, Samantha Henning, and Roderick Walker II.

Second-year renewal scholarships were awarded to: Jennifer Henry, Zachary Juchartz, and Jacob Long.

After welcoming remarks and an overview of Rotary's scope and purpose by Belleville Rotary Club President David Parrott, Rotarian Debra Juchartz discussed the history of the club scholarship program, outlined the proceedings of the evening, and offered greetings to the numerous local dignitaries in attendance.

Juchartz, who is also the chair of the club Scholarship Committee, then introduced the featured speaker, Scott LaRiche, noted automotive dealer executive and Plymouth Rotarian.

LaRiche's presentation, directed primarily at the student awardees, stressed the importance of attitude in the success of every individual.

He pointed out that attitude, whether positive or negative, is a choice that an individual makes every day. The scholars were encouraged to maintain a positive attitude in the face of inevitable challenges as they progress through life.

After LaRiche's talk, each of the scholarship recipients gave a brief biographical summary and commented on their plans and hopes for the future.

Since its inception, Belleville Rotary has awarded over \$400,000 to BHS students as part of the scholarship program. This year, as in recent years, the primary funding source for the program has been the Charles B. Cozadd Rotary Foundation which assists the club in the funding or partial funding of many of its projects.

## Birthdays

May 23 – Matthew Harnondez

May 29 – Margaret Hintz

Do you have a birthday in May? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.



Timeless Images by Susan, LLC

Scholarship winners posed with Rotary leaders, from left: Belleville Rotary Club President David Parrott, Daizchane Baker, Jacob M. Long, Kyle Archer, Samantha Henning, Destiny Lanay Eadie, Asia Dobbins, Jennifer Henry, Roderick Walker II, Jonas V. Acuna, Zachary Juchartz, and Rotary Scholarship Committee Chairperson Debra Juchartz.

## Tornado sirens signal severe weather in Belleville, Sumpter

Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor announced at Monday's regular meeting of the City Council what the blasts on the city's single emergency siren mean.

In the City of Belleville a three-minute blast on the single city emergency siren signals a warning to take cover. A one-minute signal means all clear.

Sumpter Township Police Lt. Eric Luke

said, "Our sirens do not have multiple tones so the number of activations is what counts. With springtime upon us, severe weather becomes a strong possibility."

Sumpter Township is equipped with eight emergency notification sirens positioned throughout the township. The notifications are as follows:

1st Siren Activation - This means a "WATCH" has been issued. Be vigilant of the strong possibility of severe weather approaching. Stay tuned to local weather broadcasts for further information.

2nd Siren Activation - This means a "WARNING" has been issued. Seek shelter as severe weather is imminent.

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# SUMPTER COUNTRY FESTIVAL

**May 24-27**

Township Festival Grounds at  
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## Impersonators/Tribute Artists

Schedule for Saturday, May 25, from 2 to 10 p.m.

Parade at the Festival grounds starts at Noon.

Performers start at 2 p.m. in the pavilion after the parade.

**2:00 to 10:00 p.m. -- Program emceed by Jimmy James**  
(James Naumoff), Station WPOM/WCXI 1160

**2:00-2:45 "Ray Charles" – Tyrone Hamilton**  
(added performances of "Marvin Gaye", "Charlie Pride", etc.)

**3:00-3:45 "Jerry Lee Lewis" – Don Grant**

**4:00-4:45 "Loretta Lynn"/"Reba Mc Entire" – Bernie Walters**

**5:00-5:45 "Toby Keith" – Dan Spencer**

**6:00-6:45 "Willie Nelson" – Jeff Carr**

**7:00-7:45 "Dolly Parton" – Judy Haney Goode**  
(also a special performance by Judy as herself)

**8:00-8:45 "Elvis Presley" – Sherman Arnold**

**9:00-9:45 "The Blues Brothers" – Russ & Jake**

**10:00-close – Sarah Sherrard Band**

## Court Watching

# Judge Oakley sets guidelines for John Delaney's jury trial

By Diane Madigan  
Independent Court Reporter

John Delaney's jury trial is set for 9 a.m. Friday, May 24, before 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley.

Delaney was issued a misdemeanor ticket for disrupting a Van Buren Township board meeting after he was removed from a meeting by police on Sept. 18 at the order of Township Supervisor Paul White.

Delaney, who says Van Buren Township is his legal address, hired a lawyer, pled not guilty, and demanded a jury trial on the ticket.

On May 15, Judge Oakley ruled on a 404(b) motion made Feb. 28 by Delaney's attorney James Fifelski that would allow Delaney to show the jury video recordings he made of past VBT Board meetings.

After an hour-long, private conversation off the record between Judge Oakley, attorney Fifelski and Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Ryan Lukiewski, Judge Oakley said in open court that he is willing to give the defense certain leeway.

Oakley said he would allow the defense to reference two prior arrests of Delaney by Van Buren Township that did not result in convictions.

Also the Sept. 18 videotape would be allowed, but no prior recordings.

The defense can explore these incidents through two or three witnesses, allowing cross-examination to explore the alleged "disparate treatment of the client."

The prosecution will also have a cap of

three witnesses, but will be able to have rebuttal witnesses if necessary.

Judge Oakley said he does not want a parade of witnesses at the jury trial, which he ruled will be no longer than one day.

Fifelski said there are hundreds of hours of videos and Delaney's arrest in 2011 is foundational in terms of the "differences between Mr. White and Mr. Delaney." He argued that a seven-minute video made up of meetings leading up to the present charge is key to Delaney's case.

Assistant Prosecutor Lukiewski argued that the prior incidents should have no bearing. The video will be overboard and could be prejudicial, he said.

Fifelski said the 2011 arrest is the first of several that shows differences in the individuals, "one in authority and one is a citizen in the township."

"I think we could stipulate that ... they didn't see eye to eye and possibly had animosity," Lukiewski said.

Oakley said he would allow the incidents to be discussed during cross-examination, but no prior videos will be shown.

"I'm not going to allow video for anything prior to the meeting," Judge Oakley stated.

Judge Oakley said that any suggested instructions to the jury by the attorneys should be sent to him ahead of time.

He asked the attorneys to be at court at 8 a.m. on May 24 so all the preliminaries can be handled and will be out of the way so the jury trial can begin as scheduled at 9 a.m.

Former VBT Supervisor Paul White was in the courtroom for the May 15 session.

Delaney left the courtroom after the May 15 session, loudly complaining about Judge Oakley's decision not to hear his video recordings of incidents at VBT meetings. In the hallway outside Oakley's courtroom he loudly stated he would be contacting the state to complain about Oakley.

At the May 7 meeting of the VBT Board of Trustees, Supervisor Linda Combs called in police to stand by at the meeting after Delaney got into a loud argument with CeJay Marshall, disturbing the meeting. Nobody was arrested.

Additional information supplied by Independent Editor Rosemary K. Otzman.

## Marquise Francois completes basic training

Navy Seaman Recruit Marquise D. Francois, a 2011 graduate of Belleville High School, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

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# City Council votes unanimously to vacate end of S. Liberty Street

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

The end of South Liberty Street by the tracks was vacated by the Belleville City Council by a unanimous vote during Monday’s regular meeting, making way for construction of a strip mall by Davenport Brothers.

During a two-minute public hearing before the decision, Steve Davenport said his company bought the Amerman Lumber Yard [and residence] property a few years back and to develop the property they need to tie the two parcels together through the street.

He said the strip mall they want to build will be constructed right across the present roadway.

Mary Jane Dawson said she lives across the street from “what I call the Davenport property” and she and her husband support the project.

Mike Renaud, a member of the planning commission, asked if there were costs to the city in vacating the roadway and Mayor Kerreen Conley said there were no costs.

“Is the city getting anything in return, other than the development?” Renaud asked and Mayor Conley said the city was getting the development.

Councilman Tom Smith made the motion seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Loria to vacate the portion of the public street between East Columbia Avenue and the rear lot lines of Lots 10 and 11 of Assessor’s Belleville Plat No. 2 subdivision (near the railroad tracks) and to file the resolution with the Wayne County Register of Deeds and State of Michigan Director of the Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth. The motion passed unanimously.

In other business at Monday’s meeting,

the council:

- Set a public hearing for 7:30 p.m., June 3 to consider the 2013-14 balanced general fund budget of \$2,099,285, plus other city fund budgets. The council spent three hours on May 13 talking about the budget and making adjustments. Now, it’s ready for public comment and adoption. Raises in rates for water, sewer, and rubbish are under consideration;

- Opened four bids for sanitary sewer cleaning and closed circuit television investigation of all the city sanitary sewers except those in Harbour Pointe and Victoria Commons subdivisions and under Main Street. The bids were turned over to the city administration and engineers for a recommendation to come back to the council June 3. Bids were: Terra, \$231,949.25; EQ, \$151,786.15; Lake County Sewer Co., \$190,211.55; and Metro Environmental Services, \$104,183.75;

- Opened five bids for the sidewalk gap program. Because the project is time-sensitive, the council turned over the bids to the administration and engineer and directed them to select the lowest qualified bidder and proceed with the project. Bids were: A. Land Construction, \$58,559.50; Audia Construction (Milford), \$68,850.20; Blue Ribbon (Romulus), \$45,255; Davenport (Belleville), \$59,440.50; and Hartwell Cement Co. (Oak Park), \$64,451. City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said, if applicable, the local bidder incentive will be applied. The project, due to run June 10-30, will be to extend the existing sidewalk on the east side of Edgemont Street from Edgemont Elementary School south towards Robbe Ave. and continuing west along Robbe, including installation of ADA-compliant sidewalk crossings. Mayor Pro Tem Loria was concerned that this project might be impacted by the upcoming demolition of the Edgemont ECDC building;

- Approved accounts payable of \$79,402.66 including the following departmental

purchases in excess of \$500: Crawford Door Sales, \$562.50, two repairs – municipal building and DPW, Police Dept.; GMS Seal Coating, restriping of parking lots, \$2,700, DDA; PK Contracting, street striping including three left-turns, \$1,671, DDA; McCiog, road repairs, \$616, Local Street funds; Oakland County Treasurer, CLEMIS, \$2,046.75, Police Dept.; Osborn, road repairs, \$1,407, Local Street funds; and SLC, software/maintenance, \$3,250, Water Dept.;

- As part of the accounts payable approval, an extra \$45 was included for a left-turn arrow to be added to the straight arrow in place on N. Liberty Street at Main St., so drivers can get in that lane to drive straight onto Denton Road or turn left onto Main, freeing up the right lane for right turns onto the Bridge. A sign explaining the lanes (from another fund) will be placed at the curb, adding that no parking is allowed in the right lane at that point. DPW Director Keith Boc said the “traffic engineer” recommends that, so it should be done, referring to Police Chief Gene Taylor, who asked the council to consider the turn arrow;

- Heard Councilwoman Kim Tindall note that Saturday’s activities in the city brought into sharp focus the problem of having several things going on in the city at once. She said the poorly attended Coast Guard life vest event was at the same time as the

BYC/City cleanup, which had an army of volunteers, and this was all on the same day as the cemetery flag placement; and

- Went into closed-door session to discuss information from the city attorney on the Downriver Sewer issue, which is considered “material exempt from discussion or disclosure” under the Open Meetings Act.”

## Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, May 23, through Monday, May 27** – Sumpter Country Festival runs all through the Memorial Day weekend at the fairgrounds next to the Community Center. The annual parade it at noon on Saturday, the Princess Pageant at 7 p.m. Friday, and the fireworks are at dusk on Sunday, with lots of activities in between and on Monday. Information: (734) 461-6201.

- **Thursday, May 23** – State Rep. Dian Slavens invited you to an educational forum on pending auto no-fault legislation, 6 p.m., in the boardroom of the Canton Township Hall, 1150 S. Canton Center Rd.

- **Saturday, May 25** – You’re invited to a bowling fundraiser for Leah Cotham of Romulus who suffered a massive stroke in October. The event is 3-6 p.m. at Romulus Lanes, near Five Points in Romulus, 941-6200. \$25 at the door.

## Sumpter Township Public Notice

### Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting Minutes April 23, 2013

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Supervisor Vawters showing present: Supervisor Vawters, Clerk Hoffman, Treasurer J. Morgan, Trustees: Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, & Swinson. Also present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Hurst and approximately 17 residents.

**3. Agenda:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve the agenda with the closed session added after open floor. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public comments on agenda items only**

**5. Minutes:**

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve the minutes of the regular meeting April 9, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Swinson, supported by Hoffman to accept minutes of the parks & recreation meeting March 20, 2013 & April 3, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Warrants:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the warrants totaling \$1,331,671.90. Roll call vote: Yes: Vawters, Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, Swinson, & P. Morgan. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. Parks & Recreation:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by P. Morgan to approve the parks & recreation report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**8. Attorney:** Motion by Hoffman, supported by J. Morgan to approve the attorney’s report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**9. Supervisor:** Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to approve the supervisor’s report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**10. Board Response:**

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to purchase 2 solar batteries for Banotai Park Bathrooms. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Bates, supported by P. Morgan to close the recycling center on Memorial Day Weekend. Motion carried unanimously.

**11. Old Business:**

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to

REMOVE from the agenda to have planner Carlisle Wortman on retainer of \$450.00 monthly. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Bates to approve to advertise for new landscaping for township hall. Motion carried unanimously.

**12. New Business:**

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Hoffman to approve to advertise for township hall sidewalk replacement thru CDBG. Motion carried unanimously.

**13. Announcements**

**14. Open Floor**

**15. Closed Session:**

A. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by J. Morgan to go into closed session at 7:04 pm. Roll call vote: Yes: Vawters, Hoffman, J. Morgan, Bates, Hamm, P. Morgan, Swinson. Nay: None. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to go back to open session at 7:39 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Motion by P. Morgan, supported by Swinson to direct the attorney to proceed as directed in closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

**16. Adjournment:** Motion by Bates, supported by J. Morgan to adjourn at 7:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk of Sumpter Township, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of minutes taken at a Regular Board Meeting of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees on April 23, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111, County of Wayne, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meeting Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be available as required by said act.

Clarence J. Hoffman Jr., Clerk  
Published: May 23, 2013

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## LDFA report: Inflated price of Visteon property caused bond problem

By Diane Madigan

*Independent Special Writer*

Van Buren Township Supervisor Linda Combs gave the VBT Local Development Finance Authority an update on legal matters concerning VBT bond payments for the Visteon project that the township will be unable to cover starting in 2016.

At the May 14 LDFA meeting, Supervisor Combs said the inflated price of the property to sell the bonds in the beginning was too high and, "That's why we are where we are."

She said her update was based on a phone conference she had with Kaveh Kashef, lead counsel from Clark Hill law firm.

She said Clark Hill has merged with Thorp, Reed and Armstrong and the merger will bring another 320 attorneys to Clark

Hill.

Supervisor Combs said attorney Kashef assured her that VBT will have continuity of attorneys and will have the same attorneys working on this that the township has had from day one.

Combs said she brought the concerns of LDFA member Doug Peters to attorney Kashef and Kashef said he will be furnishing the committee with bills to date and a summary of progress made.

"The timeline is hard to predict because of the variables involved with getting responses from letters sent to people," Combs said. "They are not targeting Ford in any of the litigation because it had nothing to do with the Visteon issue."

Combs continued with the update stating that Sovereign, which bought the property from Visteon, has no relationship with Ford, Visteon or GE.

The refinancing issue is not a done deal yet so she said Kashef hesitated on commenting on the rate, the principal, or

the term.

There is no legal malpractice action pending against VBT's former attorney Ricardo Kilpatrick about the Visteon bankruptcy deal because any case would be weaker and not possible, Combs said.

As far as the inflated price to sell the bonds in the beginning, Combs said Kashef agreed with Peters that the appraisal was too high and "that's why we are where we are."

Combs said Kashef agreed to meet with the LDFA in closed session on June 11.

LDFA chairman Michael Dotson thanked Combs for the update and reminded her and the township that the timeframe is very crucial on this and that the LDFA hopes to move forward with all expeditiousness. Timing is of the essence with this, he emphasized.

Combs said she wasn't at liberty to discuss the timeline, but it will be discussed in the closed session.

"Can we assume that the letter has still not gone out?" Peters asked.

"Yes, you can assume that," Combs replied. "It has not gone out."

That exchange obviously referred to a letter mentioned by Combs in February when she said Kashef is targeting a letter to Visteon to begin the negotiation process. The LDFA had asked previously that such a letter go out in October or November, at the latest.

In February, Combs said Clark Hill told her they weren't ready for litigation yet and are still gathering information.

At the end of the May 14 LDFA meeting, Carl Johnson asked from the audience if the April 1 bond payment of \$500,000-plus has been paid.

Arthur Mullen, interim Director of Planning and Economic Development, said he was sure it was and Combs said she would have heard about it if it had not been paid.

Johnson said that, typically, that is discussed at the LDFA meetings and Combs said she would get confirmation from Treasurer Sharry Budd.

Chairman Dotson said he believed it would be appropriate that payment and upcoming payments be shown on future agendas for questions and discussion and Combs agreed.

LDFA member Peters, who is also an attorney, asked Combs for a copy of the LDFA development agreement, "the original agreement that was signed." He also thanked Combs, on the record, for the first three years of LDFA minutes that she had provided to him.

"You want the agreement when the LDFA was originally formed, correct?" Combs asked and Peters replied, "That is correct. It is the agreement between LDFA and Visteon."

**Editor's Note:** 2013 payments are due April 1 and Oct. 1 and will total \$953,546.25. In October 2015 the interest rate increases from 4.25% to 5%. Until 2016, bond payments are being made from the Visteon bankruptcy settlement. In 2016 that money will be gone and the payment will more than double to \$2,198,652.50. In 2032 the township will make the final bond payment of \$3,050,000, bringing the total cost of the Visteon bonds to \$55,988,988.07 on property that is not owned by the township.

## Belleville woman accused in stabbing sent to Circuit Court May 29

By Diane Madigan

*Independent Court Reporter*

Sealisa Marie Jones, 43, of Belleville waived her right to a preliminary exam at 34<sup>th</sup> District Court on May 15 and was bound over to circuit court on the information on the complaint and warrant.

Judge David Parrott ordered her to appear at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit at 9 a.m. May 29.

Jones is charged with Assault with a Dangerous Weapon (Felony Assault) and Domestic Violence – Aggravated.

Belleville Police said Jones stabbed her husband in the chest at about 10:30 p.m. April 11 at their home at 308 Oxford Court in Victoria Commons following an argument over finances.

Her preliminary exam had been set for April 24, but at that session her attorney Todd Perkins said he had just received the discovery information that day and asked for an adjournment because he needed time to study it. Judge Parrott granted his request.

After the April 11 stabbing, the 53-year-old husband was transported to the hospital and the wife taken into custody. She paid her \$5,000/10% bond and was released.

On May 15, attorney Perkins said the husband, who was the victim, wanted to modify the bond from "no contact," to "no assault contact" and the judge agreed.

The three Belleville police officers handling the case were Cpl. Todd Schrecengost and Officers Joshua Wolfe and Jonathon Heimstra. The three officers were all in the courtroom on April 24 and again on May 15.



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**Keith Dudek : Owner**  
11681 Rawsonville  
Belleville, MI 48111

**Office: (734) 461-6165**  
**Cell: (734) 730-9733**

# C.T.S. AUTO

Cash Paid For Your Junk or Wrecked Cars or Trucks!

If You Can't Or Don't Want To Donate It, call us.

We Will Pick It Up Or You Can Drive It In For More \$.

16007 Pardee, Taylor, Michigan

## 734-282-1700



Vacation Bible School at the  
**Belleville United Methodist Church!**  
417 Charles Street, Belleville 48111  
**June 17th —June 21st**  
**5:00pm-5:30pm: Free dinner**  
**5:30pm-8:00pm: Program**

We are doing SonWest Roundup by Gospel Light. It will be a rip roarin' good time with Jesus! To register call the church office at 734-697-9288, register by June 12 for a free T shirt.

OPEN TO EVERYONE... COME AND BRING A FRIEND!

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## ESTATE SALE

### ESTATE SALE & OPEN HOUSE

May 25 - 26 10 - 6

9421 Macey Rd.,  
Willis, MI 48191

Private Airstrip 37.5 acres  
3 bdrm. house w/ appliances  
(remodel in progress) & 3 1/2 ac

**ANTIQUE FORD FIRE TRUCK**,  
2003 Toyota Highlander, UltraLyte  
w/ Roteck engine.

**HUGE INVENTORY**; barn full  
of tools, small equipment, "mini"  
hardware store w/ boxes of nails,  
screws, bolts, fasteners, rivets,  
metal office furniture, filing cabi-  
nets, some antiques, ie. Christmas  
decor., some kids toys, games,  
household, dishes, glasses, sm.  
kitchen appliances, mens clothing  
and boots, desks, chairs, some  
computer equipment, pipe, wood,  
brick, stereos, storage cabinets,  
shelving, picnic supplies, fold-  
ing chairs. **COLLECTIBLE** dolls,  
office and yard supplies.

## FREE

ERIN HAASE HARMONY LANE  
YOU'VE Won a dozen free roses. Pick  
them up at Main St. Flower's downtown,  
Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or www.  
mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

FREE TO GOOD HOME. Adorable  
kittens. Litter box trained.  
(734) 270-2265 or (734) 752-5402 5/30

1988 HONDA GL 1500 Motorbike for  
give away to a responsible person due  
to my son's sudden death. If interested  
contact jane.gank2009@yahoo.com 6/06

## FOUND

BICYCLE in Belleville. Call for de-  
scription, serial & model number. Vi-  
cinity Haggerty & N. Service Dr.  
(734) 377-6169 6/06

## FOR RENT

2 BR. APARTMENT. Quiet neighbor-  
hood in town. \$555/mo. plus 1 month se-  
curity deposit. (734) 730-8286 6/06

CLEAN 2 STORY, 2 BR. 1 bath Con-  
do w/private entry. Large Deck, Shed  
& Appliances. No Pets. \$795/mo.  
(734) 740-1716 Dave 6/06

1 BR. APARTMENT. All utilities  
included except electricity. \$625/mo. plus  
one month deposit. (313) 790-0498 6/06

## FOR RENT

### QUIET 2 BR. APT

Beautiful country living, no high  
traffic, no constant sirens, 1  
acre of property. W/appliances,  
laundry facility, patio, storage  
shed. 5 min. south of Belleville  
on Wilmot near Sumpter &  
Willis Rd. Available Now! \$625/mo.  
734-699-5658  
mail@RiggsProductGroup.com

3 BR., 1 BATH HOUSE. Doorwall  
w/ large deck. \$899/mo. plus secu-  
rity deposit. Water & trash included.  
(734) 796-3033 TFN

1 BR. MOBILE HOME. Stove, Refrig.  
Quiet country setting. Mature person or  
couple. No pets. \$450/mo. plus secu-  
rity deposit. (734) 697-8984 5/23

"Sometimes I wonder whether the world is  
being run by smart people who are putting  
us on or by imbeciles who really mean it."

Mark Twain

## MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE

### A FEW LOTS LEFT!

Relocate your home on  
us! We will help with  
your relocation  
expenses to move to  
Lakeview Manufactured  
Community. Lot rent  
\$199 for 3 years!  
www.4lakeview.com  
EHO Expires 5/31/2013  
\*Some restrictions apply

### FREE HOMES! FREE HANDYMAN SPECIALS! FREE 3 BED 1 BATH HOMES!

Call Sun Communities  
Lakeview Today  
**888-219-5958**  
Or apply online  
www.freemobilehomes.net  
EHO Expires 5/31/2013  
\*some restrictions apply

## MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

### RAWSONVILLE WOODS

Bankruptcy, Foreclosures  
and bad credit ok.

Handyman Homes starting at \$1.

Rental homes available

Ask about our specials

**734-461-6700**

## SERVICES

Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!

Call **FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**

(734) 699-4711

**FREE ESTIMATES!!!**

**YEAR ROUND SERVICES**

**Weekly Mowing, Aerations,  
De-Thatching, Seed & Sod,  
Tree, Bush & Stump Removal  
And Much More!**

www.FIRSTCLASSLANDSCAPING.net

## A&L SERVICES

**Home Improvement &  
Handyman Service**

**Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,  
Electrical, Plumbing,  
Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.**

**Serving Belleville Since  
1995. Call Aaron Schultz  
@ 734-740-0628**

**Pick-Up/Delivery  
Service Available**

**WE DO HOUSECALLS!**



**Gerry's Small Engine  
and Equipment Repair**

Tractors, Lawn, Garden &  
Small Construction Equipment

**Gerry Gentz  
Willis, MI 734-461-0158**

LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs  
too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL.  
Residential Snow Plowing. LICENSED &  
REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions Dis-  
count Prices - Guaranteed! (734)  
282-1700 TFN

R & M HANDYMAN SERVICE.  
(734) 306-8909. Specialize in Mobile  
Homes, Painting, Power Wash, Stain  
Decks and Home Repairs. 5/30

## SERVICES

### Sarvis - N - Sons Cement

**Driveways, Patio, Custom  
Flatwork & Much More!  
Rock Bottom Cash Pricing  
Senior Discounts • Free Estimates  
(734) 497-5888**

LOVING MOM will provide Child Care  
in my home. Years of experience. Ref-  
erences available. (734) 740-2649 5/23

DEPENDABLE LAWN SERVICE.  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL.  
Lawn Cutting - Spring Clean-Up - Aer-  
ating -Mulch - Shrub Trimming - Prun-  
ing - Brick Pavers - Power Raking -  
Sod & Seeding. (734) 587-2410 or  
(734) 693-4712 9/26

P & S CUSTOM CERAMIC & Porce-  
lain Tile installed. Specializing in base-  
ments, Kitchens & Baths. 50 yrs. Exp.  
Free estimates. Call (734) 787-5912 or  
(299) 247-8179. 6/13

WHITE GLOVE CLEANING. Moth-  
er & Daughter House cleaning and etc.  
No limits. Indoor or Outdoors. Please  
leave message. (734) 740-2117 or  
(734) 218-4787 5/23

WILL DO ODD JOBS. Cutting grass,  
gardening, misc. Belleville area. \$10/hr  
(734) 635-5012 or (734) 502-8724 5/30

**The Belleville-Area  
Independent New Website  
is Now Online! Visit us @  
bellevilleareaindependent.com  
Read The Newspaper  
On The Web!**

### PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is  
subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it  
illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation  
or discrimination based on race, color, religion,  
sex, handicap, familial status or national origin,  
or an intention, to make any such preference,  
limitation or discrimination." Familial status  
includes children under the age of 18 living with  
parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and  
people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any  
advertising for real estate which is in violation  
of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that  
all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are  
available on an equal opportunity basis. To  
complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free  
at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone  
number for the hearing impaired is  
1-800-927-9275.



# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

**NOW OPEN!**  
**5 ALARM FLEA MARKET**  
**Indoors Every Saturday**  
**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**  
**Outdoor set up starts at 7:30 am.**  
**Spaces available 20.00 each.**  
**800 Lowell Street**  
**Ypsilanti**  
*(I-94 to Huron, follow signs)*  
**Info call 734-340-4241**

MULTI FAMILY BARN SALE.  
 42984 Bemis Rd. May 24-25, 9-5  
 p.m. Something for Everybody. 5/23

YARD SALE - 21 CARMELL. May 25-  
 27. Sat. & Sun. 9-4 p.m., Mon. 9-1 p.m.  
 Big computer, Desk, Sm roll top desk and  
 lots of misc. 5/23

WE'VE GOT TOO MUCH STUFF,  
 Downsizing. 16787 Martinsville Rd.  
 May 30 - June 1, 9-5 p.m. Tools plus ev-  
 erything else except clothes. 5/30

## FOR SALE

ELECTRIC STOVE, 1 yr. old, \$200. (2)  
 Extended Cab Doors, Fit 1999 - 2001  
 Dodge. 55 Gal. Fish Tank with stand,  
 fish & misc. \$125. Small Freezer \$50  
 (734) 461-6542 5/23

ROVER COMPACT UTILITY Vehi-  
 cle. Dump bed, good for yard, garden-  
 ing, hunting. Like new. Approx. 150  
 hrs. \$3,500. (734) 753-4167 5/23

TROY BILT "Horse" 8 Horse Power  
 Roto Tiller. Electric start, Potato hiller,  
 gently used, new battery, have all manu-  
 als, excellent condition. \$950 Ask for  
 Jim (734) 697-0639 5/30

1971 - 30' TOLLEYCRAFT BOAT.  
 Needs work, One engine In, One out in  
 box. \$1200 (313) 720-7373 5/30

DOCK (3) 10' Sections Aluminum and  
 Wood. Good condition, \$100 all. Roto-  
 tiller 6.5 h.p., runs great, \$125. 3  
 h.p. Tiller, \$75. (734) 697-5812 5/30

CAR RAMPS, 8" W X 6'L. Aluminium,  
 \$40. (734) 765-9528 Romulus 6/06

MANURE COMPOST. \$50 a pick-up  
 truck load, delivered. Great for gardening  
 & landscaping. (734) 812-2988 6/06

1989 PROCRAFT BASS BOAT. Good  
 condition. 150 h.p., Johnson with troll-  
 ing motor & fish finder. Many extras.  
 \$2,500 as is. (734) 697-8171 or (313)  
 978-8924 6/06

## FOR SALE

DESK, COMPUTER & CHAIR. Great  
 condition. Make an offer. Leave message  
 (734) 218-4787 6/06

## PETS/LIVESTOCK

FEEDER PIGS. (734) 461-1674 6/06

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions  
 Discount Prices - Guaranteed!  
 (734) 282-1700 TFN

## WANTED

**WE BUY**  
**JUNK CARS**  
**7 Days A Week For**  
**\$300 & Up!**  
**Cash Paid!**  
**(734) 787-1444**

**WANTED:**  
**JUNK CARS**  
**Running or Not. Top \$**  
**Paid. Call For Free**  
**Pickup. Drive In For**  
**Extra Dollars.**  
**734-282-1700**

**PRIVATE COLLECTOR**  
**Pays Cash For Sports Cards**  
**And Comic Books. I Prefer Items**  
**1975 & Older, But Will Consider**  
**Anything. Mike 697-3546 Eves.**

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS  
 for the homeless. Please drop off at  
 Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive.  
 (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAIN-  
 ERS of Shampoo, Toothpaste, etc. to  
 take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off  
 at Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr.  
 (734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - CASH FOR GUITARS.  
 Have one you don't play any more. Call  
 (734) 697-1128 Ask for Ray. 7/04

"I fear the day that technology will  
 surpass our human interaction. The  
 world will have a generation of idiots."  
 — Albert Einstein

## HELP WANTED

AREA TRAINEE for local Real  
 Estate Firm. For appointment  
 call (734) 697-1800 TFN

CRYOGENIC TRANSPORTATION LLC  
 is hiring Class A CDL DRIVERS out of  
 Toledo, OH for our LOCAL & OTR (14-21  
 days out) positions! We offer competitive  
 pay, medical benefits for you and your fam-  
 ily, paid training on product handling, paid  
 uniforms, paid vacations, 401K & MORE!  
 Requirements: 2 years Tractor-Trailer ex-  
 perience, Tank & Hazmat endorsements (or  
 ability to obtain) & Safe Driving Record.  
 APPLY NOW at TheKAG.com or call  
 (800) 871-4581 5/30

VIP PROPERTY SERVICES SPRING  
 is here. Time to call and schedule your  
 Sprinkler open. (734) 699-9871 5/23

Drivers: Make \$63,000.00 yr. or more,  
 \$2,500.00 Driver Referral Bonus &  
 \$1,200.00 Orientation Completion Bo-  
 nus! CDL-A OTR Exp. Req. Call Now:  
 1-877-725-8241 5/30

(2) RESTAURANTS in Belleville &  
 (2) in Ypsilanti looking for experienced  
 Chefs, Cooks, Managers, Dishwash-  
 ers, Hosts, Hostesses, Servers & Deliv-  
 ery drivers. Mail resume to 146 High  
 St., Belleville, Mi. 48111 or Fax to  
 (734) 699-7847 6/13

PRIVATE NURSE'S AIDE needed. Ex-  
 perience, Must have drivers license.  
 Day or evening shift. (734) 482-4847 5/30

"Many a small thing has been made  
 large by the right kind of advertising."  
 Mark Twain

## HELP WANTED

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Feel good about the work that you do. Support persons  
 we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training  
 provided. \$8.40 total per hr. plus good benefits.  
**Call (734) 753-4804 New Boston**  
**Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org**

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

Work close to home assisting persons  
 we serve in their homes in the  
 Belleville & Romulus communities.  
 \$8.25 total per hr. plus good benefits.  
**Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543**  
**Email resume to: recruiter@questserv.org**

## HELP WANTED

**Servers, Dishwashers**  
**& Experienced**  
**Bartenders Wanted.**  
**Apply in Person**  
**Tin Pan**  
**Saloon & Pizzara**  
**19350 Sumpter Rd.**  
*(Next to Sumpter Ace Hardware)*

## LANDSCAPER NEEDED

**Exp. A Plus! Pay Is**  
**\$10-\$12 Per Hour**  
**Based On Exp. Call**  
**Jenene To Find Out**  
**How To Apply At**  
**(734) 323-8973**

**THE BELLEVILLE**  
**INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS**  
**CREDIT CARDS!**  
 (Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



## Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure  
 to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect  
 insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or  
 omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you  
 must notify us within five days of publication or on the date  
 of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so  
 there is time to correct subsequent publications. The  
 Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for  
 the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum  
 liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect  
 advertisement or republication of the corrected  
 advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the  
 Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

## HELP WANTED



# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*The following are selected calls for VBT Police.*

**Sunday, May 12:**  
0021 – assault & battery, 26 Brandi  
0027 – property damage accident, 16750 Haggerty  
0225 – disturbance, 11721 Meadows Circle  
0955 – larceny from auto, 48510 Denton  
1039 – larceny from auto, 7205 Westlake  
1046 – larceny from auto, 10702 Oak Ln.  
1258 – narcotics crime, Red Roof Inn  
1336 – larceny from auto, 10574 Oak Ln.  
1502 – larceny from auto, 10702 Oak Ln.  
1713 – narcotics crime, Homestead/Ecorse  
2155 – intimidation threat, 10360 Belleville

**Monday, May 13:**  
0645 – unauthorized driving away of auto, 48591 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1609 – juvenile complaint, 8879 Parkwood Dr.  
1622 – intimidation threat, 9291 Parkwood Dr.  
1934 – noise complaint, 48011 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2054 – retail fraud, Walmart  
2149 – assault & battery, 11599 Meadows Ct.

**Tuesday, May 14:**  
0744 – assault & battery, 48641 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0937 – miscellaneous complaint, McBride Middle School  
1415 – retail fraud, Meijer  
1429 – sexual assault, 41505 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1546 – property damage accident, Southport/N. I-94 Service Drive  
1602 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Independence  
1633 – disorderly conduct, 6119 Rawsonville Rd.  
1633 – fraud, Walmart  
1755 – noise complaint, 9525 Madison Dr.  
1858 – missing person, 50083 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2040 – assault & battery, 16 Oak Blvd.

**Wednesday, May 15:**  
0153 – private property accident, 42350 Van Born  
0810 – personal injury accident, Ecorse/bypass  
1010 – juvenile complaint, 47091 McBride Ave.  
1606 – property damage accident, Bemis/Sumpter  
1902 – ATV/ORV complaint, Fret/Martinsville  
1958 – assault & battery, 45000 bl. Van Born Rd.  
2129 – operating while intoxicated, 41382 Edison Lake Dr.  
2204 – trespassing, 112 Peachtree  
2205 – fraud, Walmart

**Thursday, May 16:**  
0515 – assault & battery, 17104 Westlake  
0804 – breaking & entering, 42626 N. Cumberland  
0808 – malicious destruction of property, 43483 Revere Dr.  
1027 – special detail, 11131 S. Wayne Rd.  
1419 – juvenile complaint, Haggerty/Van Born  
1435 – property damage accident, Belleville / Atchinson  
1445 – missing person, 46000 bl. Lake Villa Dr.  
1603 – assault & battery, 43 N. Ponderosa Trl.  
2018 – larceny, 46832 Ayres Ave.  
2047 – larceny, 51341 W. Huron River Dr.  
2129 – disturbance, 45707 S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2143 – fraud, Kmart  
2251 – shots fired, 6032 Victoria St.  
2157 – assault & battery, 11559 Meadows Circle

**Friday, May 17:**  
0053 – assault & battery, 42829 Fairfield Dr.  
0333 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Westlake Circle/Belleville Rd.  
0817 – larceny, 13102 Westlake  
0856 – larceny, 14309 Westlake  
0923 – larceny, 7020 Sheldon Rd.  
0939 – assault & battery, 13476 Country Walk Blvd.  
1019 – intimidation threat, 42200 Tyler  
1249 – domestic violence, 9239 Parkwood Dr.  
1351 – trespassing, Belleville/Bridge  
1559 – shots fired, 50090 Michigan Ave.  
1638 – intimidation threat, 78 Park Estates  
1643 – personal injury accident, Haggerty/I-94  
1758 – assault & battery, Wayne County Fairgrounds  
1819 – juvenile complaint, 9023 Parkwood Dr.  
2004 – larceny, 9833 Fairbanks St.  
2034 – operating while intoxicated, Denton/S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2044 – missing person, 7224 Belle Pointe Dr.  
2207 – assault & battery, 201 S. Ponderosa Trl.

2211 – assault & battery, 41462 W. Archwood Dr.  
**Saturday, May 18:**  
0022 – disturbance, 41470 E. Archwood Dr.  
0125 – disturbance, 10930 Lighthouse Dr.  
0356 – assault & battery, 9237 Parkwood Dr.  
0712 – assault & battery, 48430 Denton Rd.  
0933 – suicide or attempt, 8136 Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1302 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd. / Montague Ave.  
1453 – property damage accident, WB I-94 / Belleville  
1536 – disturbance, 46425 Tyler Rd.  
1643 – narcotics crime, 49000 bl. Denton Rd.  
1728 – intimidation threat, 47574 Belmont Dr.  
1916 – fraud, Walmart  
2151 – ATV/ORV complaint, Fret/Renton  
2348 – shots fired, 45 Maple Dr.  
Also on this week’s log are 296 traffic stops, 77 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

## Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, May 12:**  
0615 – suspicious situation, 575 Sumpter, Co-Op  
0919 – vehicle repossession, 215 Belle Villa Blvd.  
1541 – all other traffic, 444 Main, Andrew’s  
1650 – all other traffic, Main/N. Liberty  
2039 – animal complaint, 195 Belle Villa Blvd.

**Monday, May 13:**  
0133 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0553 – vehicle repossession, 509 N. Liberty St.  
1026 – assist fire dept., 200 Henry St.  
1037 – intimidation threat, 125 S. Edgemont, Edgemont School

1236 – civil matter, 78 Carmell St.  
1254 – warrant arrest, Main/Hayward’s  
1401 – welfare check, 195 Belle Villa Blvd.  
1420 – domestic assault, South/W. Davis  
1535 – fight, Victory Park  
1602 – larceny, 573 E. Huron River Dr.  
1610 – larceny, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr.  
1654 – civil matter, 125 S. Edgemont, school  
1700 – private property accident, Belle Villa Blvd./ Estrada Dr.

1914 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 22 Santa Clara  
2004 – animal complaint, 195 Belle Villa Blvd.

**Tuesday, May 14:**  
0121 – property check, Belle Villa Club House  
0400 – assist fire dept., 426 Harbour Pointe Dr.  
0441 – noise complaint, 199 N. Edgemont Ave.  
0922 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court  
0938 – miscellaneous complaint, McBride Middle School  
1107 – fraud, 430 Main St.  
1720 – larceny, 501 W. Columbia Ave., BHS  
1747 – larceny from auto, 6 Main St.  
1901 – missing person, 101 Carmell St.  
1916 – E-911 cellular, Loza Ln./E. Huron River Dr

**Wednesday, May 15:**  
0058 – warrant arrest, 6 Main St.  
0243 – suspicious person, Lakeview  
0848 – assist fire dept., 60 Main St.  
0908 – assist fire dept., 575 Sumpter Rd., Co-Op  
0942 – domestic assault, 94 Carmell St.  
1054 – larceny, BHS  
1306 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia, Columbia Court  
1451 – disorderly conduct, BHS  
1734 – suspicious situation, E. Huron River Dr. / Wexford Ave.  
1754 – property damage accident, Main/Fifth  
1807 – suspicious situation, E. Huron River Dr. / Clarence St.  
1819 – miscellaneous complaint, 6 Main St.  
1828 – ATV/ORV complaint, N. Edgemont Ave. / Potter Dr.  
1837 – welfare check, 871 Sumpter Rd.

**Thursday, May 16:**  
0422 – intrusion alarm, 510 Savage  
0821 – vehicle maintenance, 106 Main St.  
1150 – found property, 6 Main St.  
1153 – information, McBride  
1220 – assist fire dept., 179 Potter Dr.  
1818 – assault & battery, 125 N. Edgemont Ave.  
1959 – property check, 49 Carmell St.  
2024 – miscellaneous complaint, 125 Carmell St.  
2043 – trespassing, 201 Potter  
2228 – E-911 hangup/investigation, 222 Belle Villa Blvd.

**Friday, May 17:**  
0356 – property check, 506 Harbour Pointe Dr.  
0859 – assist fire dept., 160 Church St.  
1039 – miscellaneous complaint, 6 Main St.  
1112 – civil matter, 191 Clarence St.  
1132 – found property, 6 Main St.  
1138 – property damage accident, A&W  
1406 – assault & battery, McBride Middle School  
1428 – intimidation threat, 500 N. Liberty St.  
1651 – disorderly conduct, 500 N. Liberty St.  
1748 – vehicle lockout, Water Works  
2138 – suspicious vehicle, Owen Intermediate Schl  
2147 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave., Columbia Court  
2246 – property check, 598 W. Thornhill Ct.

**Saturday, May 18:**  
0038 – suspicious person, Village Park  
0119 – intrusion alarm, 573 Main St.  
0718 – intrusion alarm, BHS  
0746 – assist fire dept., 55 Menlo Park Dr.  
0835 – civil matter, 330 Harbour Pointe Dr.  
0844 – malicious destruction of property, 405 Estrada  
1240 – follow up, 6 Main St.  
2019 – noise complaint, BHS  
2344 – trespassing, 375 N. Liberty St.  
Also on this week’s log 64 traffic stops.

## Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, May 12:**  
0001 – alarm, 29000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
0107 – traffic hazard, 25000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
0442 – suspicious vehicle, Willis/Sumpter  
0754 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1043 – warrant arrest, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1334 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1349 – fire dept. assist, Pecan  
1436 – citizen assist, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1836 – suspicious vehicle, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2015 – warrant arrest, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2141 – alarm, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
2218 – suspicious person, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

**Monday, May 13:**  
1035 – 911 hang up, Idaho  
1159 – abandoned vehicle, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1731 – fight, Carriage Ln.  
1755 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Clark Ln.  
1848 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.  
2053 – threats complaint, Greenmeadow  
2115 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2305 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Clark Rd.  
2356 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter

**Tuesday, May 14:**  
1232 – follow-up investigation, 42000 bl. Harris  
1354 – animal complaint, 46000 bl. Reed  
1448 – alarm, 6000 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1525 – noise complaint, 48000 bl. Roy  
1551 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1601 – suspicious incident, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1603 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1845 – follow-up investigation, 50000 bl. Willis  
1959 – trespassing complaint, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2200 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.

**Wednesday, May 15:**  
0017 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter  
1103 – follow-up investigation, 19000 bl. Sumpter  
1123 – follow-up investigation, 19000 bl. Sumpter  
1357 – follow-up investigation, 48000 bl. Willow  
1506 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1553 – follow-up investigation, 36000 bl. S. Huron  
1626 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1751 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Willis  
1938 – warrant arrest, Texas

**Thursday, May 16:**  
0047 – suspicious incident, W. Arizona  
0445 – suspicious person, Judd/Martinsville  
0500 – follow-up investigation, 46000 bl. Dunn Rd  
0837 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Karr Rd.  
0936 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1208 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1301 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.

1350 – suspicious incident, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1442 – alarm, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1618 – suspicious person, Timberlane/Rustic Ln.  
1643 – fraud, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1649 – fire dept. assist, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1705 – 911 hang up, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
1720 – ORV complaint, 19000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

1809 – suspicious person, Elwell/Wear  
1843 – fire dept. assist, 6700 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd  
1956 – family trouble, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2109 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Sherwood  
2158 – warrant arrest, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.  
2159 – alarm, 8200 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2305 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2355 – noise complaint, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.

**Friday, May 17:**  
0020 – follow-up investigation, 36000 bl. S. Huron  
0528 – alarm, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
0835 – alarm, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1052 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1135 – shots fired, Willow/Sherwood  
1247 – ordinance violation, Harris/Elwell  
1336 – civil dispute, 50000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1505 – animal complaint, Sumpter/Willis  
1600 – assist other agency, Carriage Ln.  
1607 – fraud, 44000 bl. Dunn Rd.  
1608 – abandoned vehicle, Texas  
1613 – civil dispute, 6700 Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1650 – animal bite, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1703 – assist other agency, Carriage Ln.  
1844 – fire dept. assist, New Mexico  
1907 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1909 – assist other agency, 36000 bl. S. Huron Rd.  
1912 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2132 – suspicious vehicle, Sumpter/Dunn  
2137 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Harris Rd.  
2247 – subpoena service, 46000 bl. Traskos  
2304 – subpoena service, 46000 bl. Traskos  
2303 – subpoena service, 20000 bl. Wilmot Rd.

**Saturday, May 18:**  
0241 – fight, Timberlane  
0852 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Martinsville  
1342 – suspicious incident, 48000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1400 – civil dispute, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1445 – civil dispute, 42000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1625 – follow-up investigation, 42000 bl. Willow  
1748 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.  
1757 – fire dept. assist, Rustic Ln.  
1823 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.  
1914 – follow-up investigation, 51000 bl. Wear Rd  
1917 – reckless driver complaint, Sumpter/Wear  
2120 – death investigation, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2211 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2340 – suspicious person, 42000 bl. Wear Rd.  
Also on this week’s log are 27 miscellaneous details, 122 patrol checks, and 42 traffic stops.

## Johnson plea *(continued from page 1)*

Court records state police allege Johnson sold the Colt .45 with laser sight, which was stolen Jan. 27, 2012, to Brumette for \$200 and Brumette sold it to Ellis for \$250.

The home invasions in the northwest corner of VBT from November 2011 to April 2012 brought a lot of public comment that was put to rest with Johnson’s arrest.

## Dinner, silent auction, euchre tournament to benefit Gentz family

A dinner, silent auction, and euchre tournament will be held Saturday, June 1, at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 9961 Beck Road. Doors open at 5 p.m.

Dawn Gentz passed away on April 2 after a courageous battle against melanoma. She left behind husband Mike and two sons, ages 7 and 9. All proceeds from the event will go to support any immediate needs of the family.

Tickets are on sale for \$25 which includes dinner and entry into the euchre tournament. There will be a cash bar for all drinks.

For more information call Shelly Papineau at (734) 368-6354 or Gary Shelburne at (248) 894-3301.



Walter and Kitty Chudzinski



## Kathalein, Walter Chudzinski celebrate 50 years of marriage

Kathalein "Kitty" Mitchell and Walter Chudzinski were married May 25, 1963 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville.

On Saturday, they celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at a big party at the PNA Hall in Sumpter Township, surrounded by family and friends.

Walter first met Kitty in 1962 when she visited her brother, Joe Mitchell, who was working for Walter at his collision shop, at the corner of Sumpter and Judd roads. A year later they were married.

Kitty was born in Sumpter Township and grew up in Dearborn. Walter lived in the Belleville area his whole life, graduating from Belleville High School in 1954.

Walter started Sumpter Collision in 1957 across the street from where it is now and then opened in its current location in 1962. He ran the shop until 1981 when he sold it and retired.

For the past two and a half years, their son James, has been operating Sumpter Collision in the same spot where his parents met.

Kitty and Walter have four children: James of Newport, Ron of Indiana, Karen Sturtz of Canton and Sue Galloway of North Carolina, who were all present for their parents' celebration. Also on hand were nine grandchildren, who stood together and gave heartfelt congratulations to their grandparents.

The couple renewed their vows on May 21 at St. Anthony Church.

## Motorcycle route same as last year for Thunder into Belleville on Mon.

Hundreds of motorcycles will be making their way around area streets and roads on their way to Thunder into Belleville on Monday for the Memorial Day ceremony at Horizon Park.

For those who want to come out and cheer on the riders, the route is the same as last year:

At 1 p.m. depart Wayne County Community College, left on Haggerty Rd. right onto E. Huron River Dr., left onto Haggerty Rd., road changes to Savage Rd., turn right onto Harris Rd., left onto Martinsville Rd., then right onto Willis Rd., then left onto Sumpter Rd., right onto Oakville Waltz Rd., right onto Rawsonville Rd., right onto W. Huron River Dr., road name changes to W. Columbia Ave., turn left onto High St. and arrive at Horizon Park approximately 2 p.m.

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## Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue

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## May is Better Hearing Month

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5. Improves job performance

6. Gives you confidence everywhere you go
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8. Keeps you aware of your surroundings
9. Helps prevent further hearing loss
10. Enriches your personal relationships

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## JOIN THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN PROMOTING HEAT AWARENESS DAY ON MAY 29TH

### Extreme Heat Can Cause Death!

- About 120 people in the U.S. die each year from extreme heat. Michigan averages about 4 heat related deaths each year. Heat deaths and injuries are usually underreported.
- Most heat related deaths occur in people's homes and in people over the age of 40.
- Every location in Michigan has experienced 100 degree heat some-time in the past.
- Metro Detroit experiences about twelve 90+ degree days per year.
- Southern Lower Michigan experiences seven to twelve 90+ degrees days per year.
- Northern Lower Michigan and the Upper Peninsula experiences about five 90+ degree days per year.
- Warm nights with temperatures above 70° hinders the body's ability to cool and creating even more heat stress for the next day.

### What is the Heat Index?

The heat index (HI) is a calculation of how hot it feels by combining the effect of high temperatures and humidity.

### Did You Know?

Since the HI was devised for shady, light wind conditions, exposure to full sunshine can increase HI values by up to 15° F.

### NOAA NWS Contacts

Jim Maczko  
NWS Grand Rapids MI  
(616) 949-0643 x726  
<http://weather.gov/grr>

Matt Zika  
NWS Marquette MI  
(906) 475-5782 x726  
<http://weather.gov/mqt>

Jim Keysor  
NWS Northern Lower MI  
(989) 731-3384 x726  
<http://weather.gov/apx>

Richard Pollman  
NWS White Lake MI  
(248) 625-3309 x726  
<http://weather.gov/dlx>

Michael Lewis  
NWS Northern IN  
(574) 834-1104 x726  
<http://weather.gov/lwx>

**DO NOT leave children or pets in your vehicle!**

### Watches, Advisories and Warnings

- **Excessive Heat Watch** - Issued when the Heat Index (HI) may be at least 105° within the next 2 to 3 days.
- **Heat Advisory** - Issued when the HI is expected to be at least 100° for 3 hours or more. Can be issued with lower criteria with successive days heat.
- **Excessive Heat Warning** - Issued when the HI is expected to be at least 105° for 3 hours or more. Can be issued with lower criteria with successive days heat.

### Actions to Prevent Heat Disorders

- **Hydrate** -
  - ◊ Drink plenty of water, even if you don't feel thirsty!
  - ◊ Avoid drinks with alcohol, caffeine or lots of sugar.
- **Educate** -
  - ◊ Know the latest temperature and heat index forecasts and values.
  - ◊ Find a cool place where you will be able to get out of the heat.
  - ◊ Know the warning signs of heat illness.
- **Act quickly** -
  - ◊ Get medical help right away for any of these warning signs: Dry hot skin, heavy sweating, rapid breathing, rapid heartbeat, cramping, nausea, dizziness, confusion and exhaustion.
- **Take it easy** -
  - ◊ Avoid over exertion especially between the hours of 11 am and 6 pm. Take breaks at least hourly in the shade or in an air conditioned location.
  - ◊ Stay out of the sun and stay in a cooled building as much as possible.
  - ◊ Use a fan only when the windows are open or when the air conditioner is on.

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